

Message Text

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12

ACTION CU-03

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 1525

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, PL
SUBJECT: USE OF AUTHORS ROYALTIES TO FINANCE VISITS OF YONG
AMERICAN WRITERS

REF: A) STATE 032812-C; B) STATE 056726-C

1. ON MARCH 13, P&C COUNSELOR AND IO FINALLY WERE ABLE TO MEET WITH ZAIKS CHAIRMAN KAROL MALCUZYNSKI TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF USING LOCAL CURRENCY ROYALTIES FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES. CLAIMING THAT HIS REPLY AT THIS STAGE COULD ONLY BE UNOFFICIAL, MALCUZYNSKI PERCEIVED NO DIFFICULTIES IN SUCH ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDED THE AUTHOR OR HIS AGENT CONCURRED. MALCUZYNSKI, HOWEVER, PRIVATELY EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT THE AMERICAN AUTHORS WOULD DONATE THEIR ROYALTIES.

2. MALCUZYNSKI ALSO STRESSED THAT ONLY SOME FOREIGN AUTHOR ROYALTY ACCOUNTS WERE CONTROLLED BY ZAIKS. OTHER ACCOUNTS WERE REGISTERED WITH INDIVIDUAL POLISH PUBLISHING HOUSES. THIS MEANS, OF COURSE, THAT EACH PUBLISHING HOUSE MUST BE CONTACTED INDIVIDUALLY TO DETERMINE ITS WILLINGNESS TO UNDERTAKE THIS SAME ARRANGEMENT. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT INFORMALLY WITH INDIVIDUAL POLISH PUBLISHERS IN THIS MATTER.

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3. ZAIKS DENIED THAT ANY PROVISION EXISTS FOR THE RETENTION OF FIVE PERCENT OF ROYALTIES FOR USE BY AUTHORS FOR TRAVEL PURPOSES. ACCORDING TO ZAIKS, AUTHORS ARE ENTITLED TO USE THE ENTIRE FUND FOR TRAVEL PURPOSES, AS LONG AS THE TRAVEL IS CONDUCTED ON AIRLINES HAVING AGREEMENTS FOR ZLOTY PAYMENT WITH POLISH LOT.

4. PERCENT OF ROYALTIES PAYABLE IN HARD CURRENCY, ACCORDING TO ZAIKS, DEPENDS ON DIRECT NEGOTIATION WITH AUTHORS OR THEIR AGENTS. ZAIKS HAS AGREEMENT WITH ASCAP WHICH PROVIDES FOR 50 PERCENT ROYALTY PAYMENT

IN HARD CURRENCY AND 50 PERCENT IN ZLOTYS (TO BE HELD IN BLOCKED ACCOUNTS IN POLAND).

DAVIES

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